TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, February 3, 1989 -- Carloadings originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended January 28 totaled 341,202, up 2.3 percent from the comparable week of 1988 but 0.2 percent below the preceding week, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were up 5.4 percent in the West but down 0.1 percent in the East, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1988 week, loadings of metallic ores were up 3,079 cars (27.6 percent), loadings of coal increased by 5,800 cars (4.9 percent) and motor vehicles and equipment loadings were up 2,330 cars (12.1 percent). Grain loadings were down 1,864 cars, (5.5 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 4 weeks of 1989 totaled 1,317,296, up 1.8 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 114,364 trailers and/or containers for the week ended January 28, up 1.7 percent from the comparable week of 1988.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 4 weeks of 1989 was 422,701 trailers and/or containers, up 0.3 percent from 1988.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended January 28 totaled 20.0 billion, 4.2 percent higher than the comparable week of 1988. Cumulative volume for the first 4 weeks of 1989 was an estimated 76.4 billion ton-miles, up 2.1 percent from the comparable period of last year.

(Editors' note: Because of changes in reporting, 1989 figures are not comparable to previous years, except for 1988, which has been restated for purposes of comparison with 1989.)

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WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 28, 1989

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING JANUARY 28, 1989	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1988	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	32,273	34,137	-5.5 %	31,760	1.6 %
Farm Products, Ex Grain	2,608	3,813	-31.6	2,454	6.3
Metallic Ores	14,242	11,163	27.6	14,180	.4
Coal	125,338	119,538	4.9	127,968	-2.1
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	12,016	10,559	13.8	12,172	-1.3
Nonmetallic Minerals	8,340	9,943	-16.1	9,224	-9.6
Grain Mill Products	10,546	10,569	-.2	10,607	-.6
Food & Kindred Products	9,333	9,617	-3.0	9,077	2.8
Primary Forest Products	10,100	10,996	-8.1	9,871	2.3
Lumber & Wood Products	7,401	8,501	-12.9	6,948	6.5
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,809	11,218	-3.6	10,698	1.0
Chemicals	28,554	27,337	4.5	28,612	-.2
Petroleum Products	5,121	4,966	3.1	5,099	.4
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	9,887	8,979	10.1	9,378	5.4
Coke	5,612	5,347	5.0	5,798	-3.2
Metals & Products	10,595	11,345	-6.6	10,064	5.3
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	21,512	19,182	12.1	21,693	-.8
Waste & Scrap Materials	9,289	8,750	6.2	9,383	-1.0
Forwarder & Shipper Assn.	13	36	-63.9	11	18.2
All Other Carloads	7,613	7,422	2.6	6,883	10.6
Total	**341,202**	**333,418**	**2.3 %**	**341,880**	**-.2 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING JANUARY 28, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 4 WEEKS ENDING JANUARY 28, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	**341,202**	**333,418**	**2.3 %**	**1,317,296**	**1,294,297**	**1.8 %**
Intermodal Traffic						
Trailers	68,805	69,575	-1.1	251,047	261,009	-3.8
Containers	45,559	42,841	6.3	171,654	160,501	6.9
Total	**114,364**	**112,416**	**1.7**	**422,701**	**421,510**	**.3**
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	**20.0**	**19.2**	**4.2 %**	**76.4**	**74.8**	**2.1 %**

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